

Message Text

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S/S - MR. BORG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 087787

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADORS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, EG, IR, US

SUBJECT: TRAINING FOR EGYPTIAN PILOTS

REF: CAIRO 4709, TEHRAN 3557

FOR CAIRO:

1. IN LIGHT OF YOUR CONVERSATION WITH MUBARAK, ASSUME WE CAN DROP THE QUESTION OF IRANIAN TRAINING OF EGYPTIANS ON F-4'S AND F-5'S AS SOMETHING EGYPTIANS ARE NOT PROPOSING AT THIS TIME. NEEDLESS TO SAY, HOWEVER, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY INDICATIONS FROM IRANIANS THAT EGYPTIANS ARE IN FACT CONTINUING TO REQUEST IT. IN ANY CASE, WE HAVE GIVEN OUR NEGATIVE ANSWER TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS ON THE SUBJECT.

2. WITH RESPECT TO C-130'S, EGYPTIAN DESIRE FOR COST-FREE TRAINING IS UNDERSTANDABLE, AND ONCE CONGRESSIONAL

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CONSULTATIONS ARE COMPLETED HERE, AND WE CAN PURSUE

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SALE, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH SUCH POSSIBILITY AS ONE OF THE OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE EGYPTIANS. YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A SEPARATE TELEGRAM DESCRIBING THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT WILL BE NECESSARY, PRIMARILY ON A TECHNICAL LEVEL, ONCE WE ARE FREE TO PROCEED. ONE OF THE SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE TRAINING.

3. YOU SHOULD TELL MUBARAK THAT WE ASSUME THIS WHOLE QUESTION OF TRAINING WOULD BE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE HELD FOLLOWING CONGRESSIONAL ACQUIESCENCE IN THE SALE, THAT WE WOULD BE WILLING TO INCLUDE THE IRANIAN TRAINING AS ONE OF THE OPTIONS FOR THE EGYPTIANS TO CONSIDER, AND THAT WE WOULD NOT RULE OUT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT IF THE EGYPTIANS SHOULD DECIDE, AFTER EXAMINING ALL THE ALTERNATIVES, THAT THIS IS WHAT THEY WISHED TO DO.

4. FOR TEHRAN: YOU MAY TELL THE IRANIANS THAT, AS WE INFORMED THEM WOULD BE THE CASE, WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH THE EGYPTIANS. WE HAVE LEFT THE MATTER OF C-130 TRAINING TO BE FURTHER DISCUSSED IN TECHNICAL TALKS THAT WILL BE HELD IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING THE SALE. SO FAR AS F-4 AND F-5 TRAINING IS CONCERNED, WE HAVE REAFFIRMED TO THE EGYPTIANS OUR OPPOSITION TO IT AND HAVE BEEN TOLD BY THEM THAT THEY HAVE NO PRESENT INTEREST IN IRANIAN TRAINING ON THESE AIRCRAFT. KISSINGER

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